

Remarks

In response to the Examiner's Answer of August 11, 2003, Applicants submit the above amendment in conjunction with an RCE.

As set forth in the Appeal Brief, Applicants submit that the Examiner is reading the recited "page object control" with undue breath. Accordingly, to more clearly recite the "page object control" recitations, Applicants submit the above amendment to more clearly define the claimed inventions. No new matter has been entered. Support for the present claim amendments is found at least on page 16 and the following pages.

Applicants specifically note that the claims have not changed in scope. Rather, the page object model as embodied in the specification has been more clearly described in the preambles of the claims. See, for instance, claim 1.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Glaser.

Claim 1, with the amended preamble, defines a page object control:

said page object control including a list of objects and associated methods and properties relating to said objects, said page object control being instantiated by a page object control on a referencing page and providing a list of objects contained on said page to said referencing page...

Glaser only shows the drag and drop of code applets into an HTML page. There is no page object control as recited in claim 1. For instance, there is no instantiation of a page object control in Glaser that provides a list of objects contained on the page.

Because the scope of the claims has not changed, Applicants' previous positions as stated in the Appeal Brief are still relevant. As stated in the Appeal Brief, claim 1 recites a page object control on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page, wherein a second page is capable of instantiating the page object control and implementing the at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page into the second page.

As previously described in the Amendment filed August 19, 2002, Glaser fails to teach or suggest a page object control as recited in claim 1. Rather, Glaser merely discloses a computer program for designing web pages where a user drags and drops a selected object (e.g., a “form”) from a window into a code editor window in order to insert code for the object into the HTML code of the web page being designed. See Amendment dated April 19, 2002, page 4, last line through page 5, line 2 and Glaser reference, Figs 6B-D. Thus, Glaser merely discloses adding code to a web page design by dragging and dropping an object into an editor window. Glaser does not teach or suggest a page object control as recited in claim 1.

The Final Office Action dated November 7, 2002 asserted that Glaser disclosed an Applet list. The Applet list of Glaser is a “window displaying applets for all forms and projects known to the development computer” (Glaser, col. 7, lines 44-45 and Fig. 7C). The Patent Office asserts:

Glaser teaches a software development environment comprising an Applet control list of all forms and projects. Glaser also teaches inserting controls from one form or HTML page onto another HTML page (Glaser Abstract, column 7 lines 40-45; compare with claim 1 “a page object control on a first page for storing a list ... associated with said first page”)

Final Office Action, page 3, lines 1-4.

Appellants pointed out in the Request for Reconsideration dated February 7, 2003 that Glaser fails to teach or suggest the page object control as recited in claim 1. Although Glaser states in the abstract that “a user may select control from one form or HTML page and insert it into another HTML page”, the “control” as referred to by Glaser is not equivalent to the page object control of claim 1. The term was extensively addressed in the Request for Reconsideration at pages 2-4 and is not repeated here. Briefly, it was explained that the term “control” as used by Glaser referred to applet code being inserted into the code for an HTML page displayed in a code editor window as illustrated in Fig. 7C of Glaser. Specifically, “control” in the Glaser reference refers to one of the elements (e.g., “GRID1”) on the Applet list as illustrated in Fig. 7C of Glaser.

The Examiner does not refute or deny this interpretation. There is no showing that the control of Glaser equates to the page object control as set forth in the claims.

Given that an element on the Applet list of Fig. 7C of Glaser is the “control”, which the Examiner equated with the page object control of claim 1, Glaser’s “control” must be “on a first page” to relate to the claims. Further, to be applied as the Examiner has suggested, Glaser’s control must be for “storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page”, as recited in claim 1. As was described in the Request for Reconsideration, Glaser fails to teach or suggest a first page. In the interpretation adopted by the Patent Office, the “control” of Glaser (e.g., “GRID1” on the Applet list) is on an Applet list and the Applet list is “the first page”. However, the Applet list is merely “a window displaying applets for all forms and projects known to the development computer” (see Glaser, col. 7, lines 43-45) and does not constitute “a first page.” The Applet list is not a page at all but rather a window displayed by the web page design program that lists objects that may be dragged and dropped into an editor window.

Moreover, the page object control is for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page. Thus, even if one were to erroneously conclude that the Applet list window of Glaser is equivalent to “a first page” of claim 1, the “control” (e.g., GRID1) of Glaser does not store a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with the Applet list (assumed to be the “first page”). As was described in the Request for Reconsideration (page 5, first paragraph), the elements on the Applet list of Glaser are merely generic objects “known to the development computer” (see Glaser col. 7, line 45) and are not associated with the first page. In fact, Glaser fails to teach or suggest a “first page” at all.

The Patent Office also appears to alternatively equate the Applet list of Glaser with the page object control of claim 1. In this interpretation, the Applet list of Glaser itself was equated with the “page object control” of claim 1 and the elements on the Applet list (e.g., “GRID1”) was equated with “methods” or “properties”. However, the elements on the Applet list are not equivalent to methods or properties associated with the first page. The elements on the Applet list each constitutes HTML code for scripting of a specific graphical element (a grid, for example)

without describing any methods or properties associated with the first page. As was pointed out in the Request for Reconsideration (page 5, second paragraph), applets are computer programs for performing a task and, without more, do not teach or suggest methods and properties.

Moreover, if the Applet list of Glaser is equated with the “page object control” of claim 1, then Glaser fails to teach or suggest the Applet list on a first page. The Applet list is merely “a window displaying applets for all forms and projects known to the development computer” (see Glaser, col. 7, lines 43-45). The Applet list is not “on a first page”. Indeed, the Applet list as taught does not relate to a page at all.

In response to the lack of teaching or suggestion in Glaser of “at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page”, the Final Office Action asserts that “it would have been obvious to interpret said forms from said applet list as associated with HTML pages, providing the advantage of form objects that are customized to different pages.” See Final Office Action page 3, lines 18-19. In this interpretation, the Patent Office equates the Applet list with “a page object control” and the individual elements on the Applet list (e.g., “FORM” or “GRID”) as “a method” or “a property”. As discussed above and in the Request for Reconsideration, the applets on the applet list are not methods or properties. However, even assuming one would erroneously conclude that applets are either methods or properties, one of ordinary skill in the art would still not arrive at the present invention. If the Applet list is assumed to be “a page object control” as the Patent Office has assumed, then to arrive at claim 1, at least one of the elements on the Applet list must be associated with the first page. As discussed above, under this assumption, Glaser fails to teach or suggest a first page because there is no teaching or suggestion that the Applet list is “on a first page.” The Applet list is merely a window containing a list of items that may be dragged and dropped into a code editor window and does not relate to a page as claimed.

Further, Glaser fails to teach or suggest a second page as recited in claim 1. Claim 1 recites that the second page is capable of instantiating the page object control and implementing the at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page into the second page. Nowhere does Glaser teach or suggest instantiating the page object control. Indeed, Glaser fails

to teach or suggest a page object control. Regardless of which set of assumptions adopted by the Patent Office, Glaser fails to teach or suggest the second page. In one assumption, the Patent Office asserts that the “page object control” is the Applet list and stores a list of applets (e.g., “GRID1”) which the Patent Office further equates with a “method” or a “property”. The Patent Office then equates the second page of claim 1 with the code editor window in Glaser in Fig. 7C. As discussed above and in the Request for Reconsideration, applets alone are not methods or properties. Moreover, this assumption ignores the fact that there is no “first page” in Glaser. However, even ignoring these facts, Glaser still fails to teach or suggest a second page because the second page, as recited in claim 1, is capable of instantiating the page object control. However, the code editor window in Glaser is not disclosed as instantiating the applet list. Thus, there is no equivalent to the second page under this set of assumptions adopted by the Examiner.

In an alternative assumption adopted by the Examiner, the Examiner asserts that the “page object control” is equivalent to any one of the applets on the Applet list in Fig. 7C of Glaser and the Applet list itself constitutes the “first page.” As described above and in the Request for Reconsideration, the Applet list of Glaser is not a “first page”. An Applet list is merely a window displaying a list of elements that may be dragged and dropped into a code editor window. Thus, the Applet list is not a page. Moreover, the “page object control” is not equivalent to any of the applets on the Applet list (e.g., “GRID1”) because none of the applets on the Applet list in Glaser stores a list of a least one of a method and a property associated with the first page (assumed to be the Applet list itself in this scenario). The applets on the Applet list in Glaser are merely application scripts and are not methods or properties associated with the Applet list itself. Also, Glaser fails to teach or suggest the second page under these assumptions because the second page, as recited in claim 1 is capable of instantiating the page object control, the page object control on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page. Glaser does not teach or suggest any of these elements.

In response to Appellants’ arguments, the Patent Office asserted in the Advisory Action dated March 5, 2003 that “Applicant does not clarify the definition of a page object control in the instant claims” and that “said control can be fairly interpreted ... as taught by Glaser.” The Patent

Office does not offer any further support for this contention. Nor does the Advisory Action address or refute any of the shortcomings and deficiencies of Glaser as enumerated in the Request for Reconsideration.

In response to the assertion in the Advisory Action that “Applicant does not clarify the definition of a page object control in the instant claims”, Appellants respectfully point out that the page object control is recited in claim 1 as “on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page.” Claim 1 further recites that “a second page is capable of instantiating the page object control and implementing at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page into the second page.” Not only is the page object control defined in claim 1, but also, as stated above and in the Request for Reconsideration, Glaser fails to teach or suggest any of the recited features. In summary, Glaser fails to teach an item equivalent to the page object control because nowhere does Glaser teach or suggest anything “on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page, wherein a second page is capable of instantiating said page object control and implementing said at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page into said second page.” At best, Glaser merely discloses a computer program that displays an Applet list window for listing applets (not shown to have methods or properties) in which the applets (not the applet list itself) may be dragged and dropped into an editor window for running script to design a web page. Without more, claim 1 is allowable over Glaser.

Independent claim 8 and the dependent claims from claims 1 and 8 are allowable for similar reasons relating to the page object control.

Claim 3 recites editing a first page, referencing a second page from the first page, referencing at least one of a method or property from the first page, the at least one of a method or property being associated with the second page and storing the first page.

The Examiner equated the “first page” of claim 3 with the Code Editor window of Glaser (Glaser, Fig. 6C and Abstract) in the Final Office Action dated November 7, 2002. However, the Code Editor window of Glaser (Fig. 6C) is not equivalent or suggestive of the first page as recited in Claim 3. The Patent Office asserted in the Final Office Action dated November 7, 2002

that an applet in Glaser is dragged from a window displaying the applet object to a drop location “resulting in a transfer of the applet object ... onto the new form.” See Final Office Action, page 4, 3rd paragraph. Even assuming arguendo that this is true, Glaser still fails to teach or suggest claim 3. Claim 3 recites referencing the second page from the first page. Glaser merely discloses a computer program that displays windows containing objects to drag and drop but fails to teach or suggest pages. Even if one were to erroneously conclude that the windows were pages, Glaser still fails to teach or suggest referencing the second window from the first window. Glaser merely discloses a user dragging an element from one portion of a display to another but does not teach or suggest referencing the second page from the first page. As pointed out in the Request for Reconsideration, Glaser illustrates in Fig. 6C, a user dragging and dropping “FORM1” into a code editor window. However, the windows themselves do not reference each other. Rather, a user drags an element from one window and drops it into a second. Thus, Glaser fails to teach or suggest claim 3.

In response to this deficiency in Glaser, the Advisory Action dated March 5, 2003 states that “since Applicant does not clarify the definition of a page object control in the instant claims, said control can be fairly interpreted (within the scope of the art) as taught by Glaser”. However, claim 3 does not recite a page object control. Nor did Appellants assert that claim 3 was allowable because of a definition of a page object control. The Advisory Action does not provide a rationale for maintaining the rejection of claim 3. Appellants’ arguments in support of claim 3 remain unrefuted and uncontested by the Patent Office.

The dependent claims 4-7 are allowable for at least the reasons stated above.

Claims 12-15 are believed allowable for similar reasons.

New claims are added by this amendment. The Commissioner is authorized to debit our deposit account no. 19-0733 in the appropriate amount.

Gregory Lindhorst et al. – U.S. Serial No. 09/223,774

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned to further prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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